

DORE AN BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

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DORE AND BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1959, in accordance with Article 15 (4) and (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959, and Circular 1/60 of the Ministry of Health.

The year 1959, was one with a low incidence of notifiable disease in the Rural District. Although certain of the common infections did occur, measures of control appear to have been reasonably successful, and the incidence of notifiable disease was much less than in the previous year.

The number of births showed an increase on the number recorded in the previous year and the number of deaths was less than in 1958.

The Council made some progress in housing and in the provision of public water supplies, although there is still much to be done in connection with public water supplies.

The Report contains no special comment to which I particularly wish the attention of the Council to be directed, but records the work carried out during the year.

I have to acknowledge assistance in the preparation of this Report and in the discharge of my duties throughout the year, by my colleagues Mr. F. Craze, Clerk to the Council; Mr. E.A.J. Reece, Financial Officer and Mr. D.J. Francis, Public Health Inspector. Also, I wish to place on record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the support which I have always received.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

8th July, 1960.

DORE AND BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William Hogg, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, SANITARY SURVEYOR AND
HOUSING DESIGNATED OFFICER

Mr. David J. Francis, C.R.S.I., M.P.H.I.A.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND
ASSISTANT SURVEYOR

Mr. R.E. Moore, C.R.S.I., M.P.H.I.A.

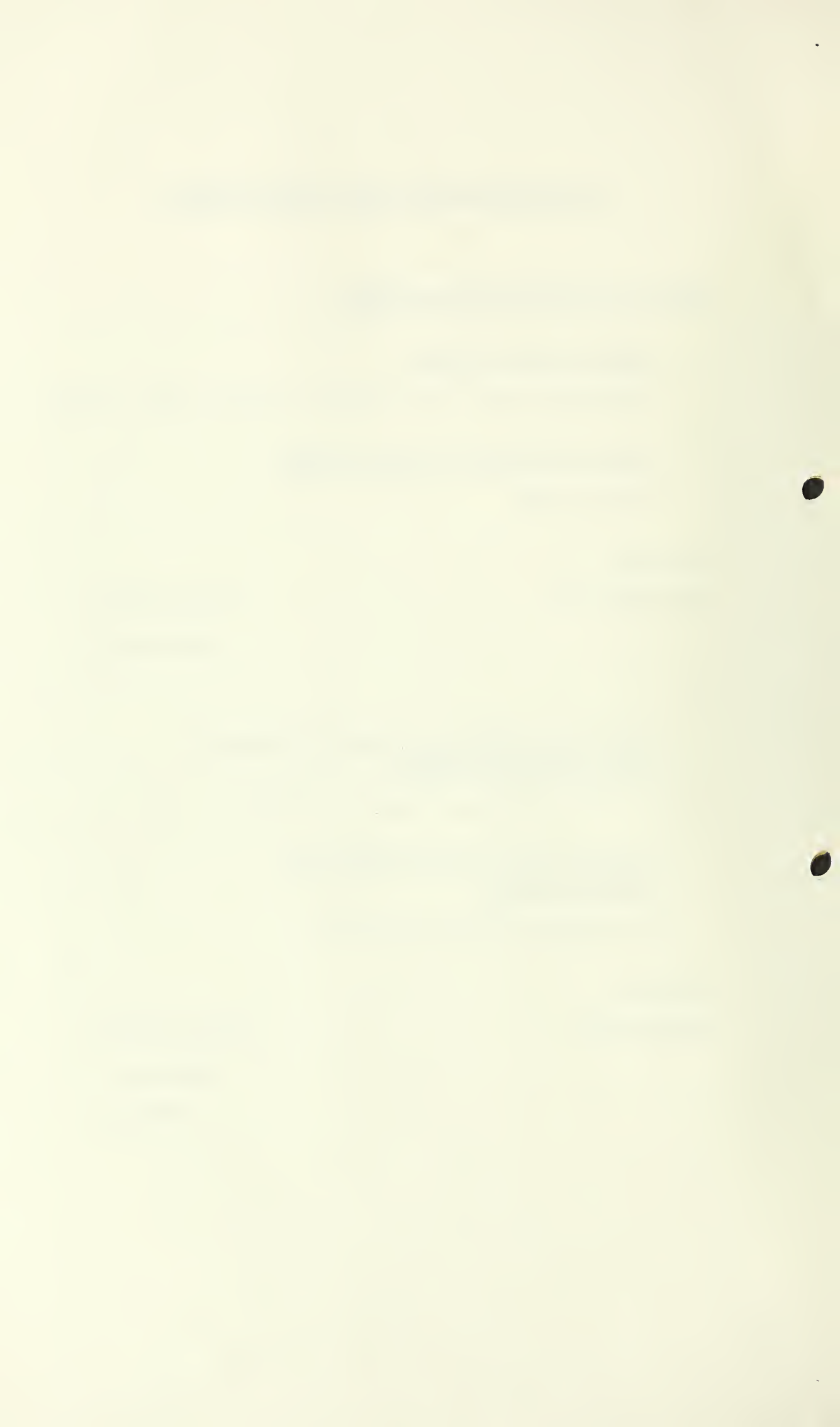
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SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The District is entirely agricultural in character. There is much impressive scenery, especially in the west where the Black Mountains form a boundary.

Area (in acres)	...	84,532
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.59)	...	2,457
Rateable Value	...	£52,245
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	£196.1.8d.
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population	...	8,280
Area comparability factor (births)	...	1.07
Area comparability factor (deaths)	...	1.00

Vital Statistics for the YearLive Births

Number of live Births	...	133
Live Birth rate per 1000 population	...	16.1
Illegitimate live Birth rate per cent of total live births	...	6.8%

Stillbirths

Number of stillbirths	...	4
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	...	29.2
Total live and still births	...	137
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	...	5

Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant deaths per 1000 total live births	...	37.6
Legitimate Infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	...	32.3
Illegitimate Infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	...	Nil
Neonatal Mortality Rate	...	30.1
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate	...	15.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate	...	43.8

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of Maternal deaths	...	Nil
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	...	Nil

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population is 8,280, a small reduction on the figure (8,300) for the previous year. The average number of persons per inhabited house is 3.37 and the average number of persons per acre is 0.098. The average number of occupied dwellings per acre is 0.03. The natural increase of population, that is the excess of live births over deaths, is 72.

Births

The total number of live births registered during the year was 133 (67 male and 66 female), giving a crude birth rate of 16.1 per 1000 of the estimated population. The corrected live birth rate, using the comparability factor of 1.07, was 17.2 per 1000 population. The number of illegitimate births was 9 (5 male and 4 female). The live births which occurred out of wedlock were 6.8% of the total live births. The live birth rate for England and Wales for 1959 is 16.5 per 1000 population.

Stillbirths

Four stillbirths were registered during the year, one more than in 1958. The stillbirth rate was 29.2 per 1000 total (live and still) births. The stillbirth rate for the year for England and Wales is 20.7 per 1000 total (live and still) births.

Deaths

The actual number of deaths recorded as having occurred within the area was 61 (33 male and 28 female) after the deduction of deaths of non-residents occurring within the District and the addition of deaths of residents occurring outside the area. The crude death rate is 7.4 per 1000 population. As the comparability factor is 1.0, this figure is also the adjusted death rate for the Rural District. The death rate for England and Wales for the year under review is 11.6 per 1000 population. The ratio of male/female deaths is 1.18. In 1958 there were 93 deaths registered in the Rural District.

The most frequent cause of death was heart disease (headings Nos.18, 19 and 20) accounting for 15 deaths (7 male and 8 female), giving an adjusted death rate from all forms of heart disease of 1.81 per 1000 estimated population. In 1958 there were 29 deaths caused by heart disease.

Cancer Deaths

All forms of cancer (headings Nos.10, 11 and 14) caused 14 deaths and give an adjusted death rate from this cause of 1.68 per 1000 population. In 1958 there were 14 deaths attributed to all forms of cancer. The cancer death rate for England and Wales for 1959 was 2.14 per 1000 population.

Infantile Deaths

The number of infants under one year of age who died was 5 (4 male and 1 female). The infant mortality rate for the Rural District is, therefore, 37.6 per 1000 live births and this rate for the year for England and Wales is 22.0 per 1000 live births. Four of these babies died under the age of 4 weeks. The neonatal mortality rate for the Rural District is 30.1 per 1000 live births, and this rate for England & Wales for 1959 is 15.8 per 1000 live births.

Deaths due to Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea

No deaths were attributed to gastritis, enteritis or diarrhoea.

Deaths from Acute Notifiable Disease

Pneumonia caused three deaths and was the only acute notifiable disease attributed as a cause of death. The adjusted death rate for the Rural District for pneumonia is 0.36 per 1000 population. In 1958 three deaths were caused by this disease.

Tuberculosis

No deaths were attributed to tuberculosis. The death rate from all forms of tuberculosis for the Rural District for the year is nil. The death rate for England and Wales for 1959 from all forms of tuberculosis is 0.85 per 1000 population.

Table of Causes of Death according to Sex and Mortality Rates

List No.	Cause of Death	Male.	Fe- male.	Per- sons.	Corrected D.R. per 1000 est. Population.
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases.	1	1	2	0.241
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	3	2	5	0.603
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	3	1	4	0.482
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic Neoplasms.	1	4	5	0.603
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	5	4	9	1.086
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	6	1	7	0.844
19.	Hypertension.	-	1	1	0.120
20.	Other heart disease.	1	6	7	0.844
21.	Other circulatory disease.	1	1	2	0.241
23.	Pneumonia.	2	1	3	0.362
24.	Bronchitis.	-	1	1	0.120
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-	1	0.120
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate.	2	-	2	0.241
31.	Congenital malformations.	2	-	2	0.241
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	3	5	8	0.965
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents.	1	-	1	0.120
34.	All other Accidents	1	-	1	0.120
All Causes		33	28	61	7.353

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

The usual clinical laboratory investigations are made at the Public Health Laboratory at the County Hospital, Hereford.

The following table shows the number of examinations carried out by the Laboratory on behalf of the Department:-

Urine	...	2
Faeces	...	1
Milk (organisms)	...	1
Milk (methylene blue test)	...	21
Milk (phosphatase test)	...	19
Milk (biological)	...	1
Water (bacteriological)	...	39

In addition, 13 samples of water were sent for examination by chemical methods.

Hospitals

The needs of the population are met by the hospitals in the City of Hereford. Accommodation for cases of infectious disease is available at the Stretton Sugwas Hospital, and the County Hospital, Hereford.

Ambulances

The ambulances in the City of Hereford are used to meet the requirements of the inhabitants of the District.

Clinics

A County Council Infant Welfare Clinic is held every Tuesday afternoon at Kingstone.

National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 50

No burials were carried out by the Council under this Section during the year.

National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47

Two investigations were made under this section during the year, both concerned aged persons. In one case, admission to a suitable institution was secured by informal action and in the second case, conditions were kept under review.

SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Geology

The whole of the area is formed of Old Red Sandstone rocks of the Devonian System, here represented by Upper and Lower Old Red Sandstones and Marls.

Water

The Council has a system of public water mains in the parishes of Madley, Kingstone, Vowchurch, Turnastone, Abbeydore, Wormbridge, Kenderchurch, Kentchurch and Ewyas Harold. The water is purchased in bulk from the Hereford Rural District Council and is purified river water.

At the end of the year 641 dwellings were supplied from these public mains.

The Council also provides public water supplies in the parishes of Clifford, Dorstone and Longtown; these schemes utilise spring water on high ground, the water being piped down to the area of supply. These schemes altogether supply 219 dwellings.

In Cusop parish 59 dwellings are supplied from the water mains of the Hay-on-Wye Urban District Council.

In addition to these public supplies, there are a number of private supplies in the following parishes:-

Abbeydore	...	20 dwellings
Bredwardine	...	25 "
Ewyas Harold	...	20 "
Kentchurch	...	20 "
Peterchurch	...	100 "

Domestic supplies are by separate services, except for three standpipes on the Clifford supply and one on the Dorstone supply.

The number of samples of water submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Hereford for bacteriological examination was 39 and of these 11 were from public supplies.

The water of the Clifford supply was found to be not of good potable quality, and although remedial measures were taken, the improvement produced was not entirely satisfactory.

From the remaining 28 samples, in 18 instances, the water was found not to be of potable quality. Samples of water from the Council's supplies were sent to the Public Analyst for chemical examination. In all four schemes, the water was found to be suitable for drinking purposes.

The year 1959 was a dry year and shortage of water was experienced in the parishes of Abbeydore, Kilpeck and Bredwardine.

Drainage and Sewerage

There is a system of public sewers in the parishes of Madley and Kingstone which drain to sewage disposal works at Coldstone Common, Madley. There is also a short length of public sewer in Peterchurch parish. No extensions of public sewers or public sewage disposal works were carried out during the year.

The number of new domestic drains constructed was 75.

All new drains are tested by the public health inspector.

The number of drain tests made was 75.

Rivers and Streams

The Rural District contains a number of rivers. The river Wye in the north forms part of the boundary of the area from Hay to Bredwardine. The Rural District is traversed by the Monnow, the Dore, the Escley Brook and Dulas Brook - all are clean rivers. The number of inspections of water courses made during the year was 44.

Closet Accommodation

It is estimated that just over half of the population have the use of water closets; about one quarter are still obliged to use pail closets, and the remainder still use privies.

The number of new water closets constructed during the year, excluding conversions, was 55. In addition 17 privies and 10 pail closets were converted to water closets and 20 privies were replaced by pail closets. Every effort is made to convert conservancy closets but this work is restricted by lack of piped water supplies.

Public Cleansing

The Council provides a system of domestic refuse collection in the Rural District with the exception of Cusop parish. The collection is carried out under contract once every month. Refuse disposal is by tipping. It is estimated that about 80% of occupied dwellings are included in this collection. In Cusop parish a regular domestic refuse collection is made monthly by the Hay-on-Wye Urban District Council.

The Council does not carry out cleansing of cesspools and privies other than those on its own property. Twentyeight cesspools were cleansed during the year.

Shops and Offices

No formal action was necessary under Public Health Act, 1936. Thirty inspections of shops were made during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public within the area.

Camping Sites

Camping causes no public health problem at the present time in the Rural District. One site was used for camping purposes during 1959 and conditions were quite satisfactory. The maximum number of campers estimated to be within the District at any one time is 46.

No licences were issued by the Council with respect to Camping Sites under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

One dwelling house was found to be infested with bedbugs during the year and was sprayed with "Zaldecide". No Council houses were found to be so infected.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the Rural District.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to Mr. D.J. Francis, Public Health Inspector to the Council, for the following tabular statement, furnished under Article 25(20) of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959.

Inspections

Accumulations	...	4
Ashbins and ashpits	...	12
Bakehouses	...	12
Camping Sites	...	6
Canteens	...	12
Caravans	...	8
Dairies	...	71
Drainage	...	75
Drain Tests	...	75
Filthy and Verminous Premises	...	2
Filthy and Verminous Persons	...	2
Factories (without mechanical power)	...	21
Factories (with mechanical power)	...	8
Food Handling Byelaws	...	30
Food Premises	...	26
Houses (Consolidated Regulations)	...	432
Housing (Other)	...	400
Hotel and Restaurant Kitchens	...	19
Ice Cream (Registered Premises)	...	29
Infectious Disease	...	21
Licensed Victuallers' Premises	...	25
Nuisances	...	6
Petroleum Stores	...	30
Diseases of Animals Acts (Anthrax Order 1938)	...	1
Schools	...	8
Sewage Disposal Works	...	69
Sewers	...	69
Shops	...	30
Sanitary Conveniences	...	46
Slaughterhouses	...	104
Unsound Food	...	19
Water Supply	...	120
Water Courses	...	44
Work Places	...	238

Notices Issued

Informal	...	16
Statutory re Housing	...	2
Statutory under other Acts	...	6

Summary of Defects Remedied

Accumulations removed	...	4
Cesspools and septic tanks cleansed	...	28
Ditches cleared	...	4
Domestic Baths provided	...	38
Drains and Gullies cleared	...	29
Drains repaired	...	14
Drains reconstructed	...	4
New drains provided	...	75
Defective floors repaired	...	27
Defective roofs repaired	...	34
Defective eaves gutters repaired	...	17
Defective brickwork repaired	...	17
Defective Coppers remedied	...	12

Summary of Defects Remedied (Continued)

Disinfections after infectious Disease	...	17
Disinfestations	...	2
Defective windows repaired	...	29
Defective chimneys repaired	...	22
Dampness of floors and walls remedied	...	17
Cisterns cleansed or repaired	...	4
Closets repaired	...	35
Dairies reconstructed	...	2
Dairies improved	...	4
Filthy and Verminous Premises cleansed	...	2
Footpath channels cleared	...	16
New gullies provided	...	107
Gully covers provided	...	107
Inspection chambers repaired	...	4
Paving repaired	...	8
Privies converted to water closets	...	10
Rainwater pipes provided or repaired	...	19
Staircases repaired	...	6
New sinks provided	...	75
Soil pipes repaired	...	19
Sanitary fittings provided	...	75
Moveable dwellings removed	...	1
Ventilation improved	...	2
Wells cleansed or repaired	...	1
Water supplies provided	...	1
Miscellaneous defects remedied	...	449

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The Council employs a part-time Rodent Officer, and his work during 1959 is recorded in the following table:-

	Premises Inspected.	<u>Total Infestations</u>		No. of properties treated.	Statutory Notices.
		<u>Mice</u>	<u>Rats</u> Major Minor		
Local Authorities' Properties	16	-	- 2	2	-
Dwelling Houses	855	-	- 24	24	-
Agricultural Properties	715	-	- 116	-	-
All other (including business) premises	169	-	- 3	3	-
Total	1755	-	- 145	29	-

Factories Acts 1937 - 1959

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1959 for the Rural District of Dore and Bredwardine, in the County of Hereford.

PART I OF ACT

1. Inspections made for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register.	Inspect-ions.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	9	8	-	-
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	23	21	-	-
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises).	39	209	-	-
Total	71	238	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	by H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	-	1	-
Total	1	1	-	1	-

Outworkers

There are no outworkers now registered with the Local Authority.

SECTION D - HOUSING

During the year, The Council completed 28 dwellings in Madley parish and commenced the erection of 24 houses in Ewyas Harold parish. At the end of the year, the number of Council houses completed and occupied was 299, distributed in the following parishes:-

Abbeydore	(Southview)	...	4
Bredwardine	(Orchard Place)	...	6
Clifford	(Church Road)	...	4
Cusop	(Coronation Terrace)	...	5
Dorstone	(Oaklands Place)	...	4
Ewyas Harold	(Elmdale)	...	16
Kenderchurch	(Grove Park)	...	10
Kentchurch	(Crabs Castle)	...	2
	(Parkside)	...	6
Kilpeck	(Castle Park)	...	6
Kingstone	(Coldstone Cross)	...	88
	(Green Lane)	...	45
Longtown	(Penbailey)	...	6
Madley	(Archenfield)	...	59
	(Shenmore)	...	2
Orcop	(Coppice Well)	...	6
Peterchurch	(Closure Place)	...	9
	(Wellbrookside)	...	21

Private owners completed 9 dwellings and had three under construction at the end of the year.

Temporary Dwellings

Buildings in the former R.A.F. establishment at Kingstone continued to be occupied as temporary dwellings and at the end of the year 12 of these were still in occupation.

Eighteen temporary dwellings ceased to be used during the year.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1.	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	...	528
2.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	...	5
3.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	...	91

No unfit dwellings were demolished or closed during the year but 75 unfit dwellings were rendered fit after informal action by the Local Authority.

Housing Act, 1957. Part IV. Overcrowding

At the beginning of the year, four dwellings were known to be overcrowded. One case was reported during the year. It was not possible to secure abatement of any case during the year. The number of dwellings known to be overcrowded at the end of the year was 5.

The Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958. Section 30

The number of grants made by the Council under this section for the improvement of dwellings was 16. These grants were discretionary grants and are made in suitable cases where the dwelling can be made fit for human habitation in all respects.

Section 43

The number of loans made by the Council to assist persons in house purchase was 4.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. Section 4

During the year, the Council made 2 grants under this section for the provision of standard amenities in dwelling houses.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

Twelve milk distributors were registered with the Council under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 - 1959. The number of dairy inspections made was 71. During the year improvements were carried out in 2 dairies.

There are no plants for pasteurisation or sterilisation of milk situated in the Rural District. One distributor was licensed for the sale of pasteurised milk, 2 were licensed for the sale of sterilised milk and 2 were licensed for the sale of tuberculin tested milk.

Nineteen samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. All were found to comply with the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949. One sample of raw milk was sent for biological test and was reported as free from tuberculosis and Br. Abortus infection. Three samples of tuberculin tested milk were also submitted and found to comply with the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Ice Cream

No manufacture of ice cream is carried on within the Rural District, but 6 premises were registered during the year for the storage and sale of ice cream, bring the number of such registrations up to 34. The number of inspections of registered premises was 29 and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Shell Fish

The sale of occasional jars or tins of preserved shell fish appears to form the sale of shellfish within the Rural District. No action was necessary with regard to to this food.

MeatSlaughterhouses Act, 1958. Section 1

Two private owned slaughterhouses continued in use under licence within the Rural District. The carcasses and offals of all slaughtered animals are inspected by the Public Health Inspectors, the number inspected during the year being 573.

All meat found to be unfit for human consumption is sprayed with fluorescene and buried.

There were 104 slaughterhouse inspections made during the year.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958. Section 3

Five slaughterman's licences were issued by the Council during the year. Three of these permitted the holders to slaughter pigs and sheep, whilst two permitted the slaughter of cattle, sheep and pigs.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows.			Sheep and Lambs.		
	Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.
Number killed (if known)	104	3	-	430	36	-
Number inspected	104	3	-	430	36	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	5	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	61	1	-	22	7	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	58.7	33.3	-	6.3	19.4	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	9	-	-	-	5	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	8.7	-	-	-	13.7	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Food Poisoning

No notifications of food poisoning were received during the year.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16

Six premises were registered with the Council under this section; one being concerned with fruit and vegetable preservation. Seventy inspections of these registered premises were made during the year. All these premises were maintained in a satisfactory state.

Unsound Food

The following list gives particulars of food found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>Cause of unsoundness</u>
8 lbs.	Beef	Bone Taint.
5 lbs.	Sausage	Decomposition
1 Tin	Herring	Blown Tins
2 Tins.	Meat Paste	Blown Tins
14 lbs.	Beef	Bone Taint
4 lbs.	Bacon	Decomposition
1 x 7 lb. tin	Apricots	Blown Tin
3 lbs.	Mutton	Decomposition
1 x 6 lb. tin	Ox Tongue	Blown Tin.

Byelaws as to Handling, etc. of Food

The number of inspections made was 30, and no infringements of the Byelaws were detected.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

All premises concerned were complying in all respects with the regulations during the year.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The year 1959 was one of low incidence of acute notifiable infectious disease, as only 61 notifications were received compared with 242 in the previous year. The difference was caused by the relatively low incidence in measles in 1959. The notification rate is 7.4 notifications per 1000 estimated population. Throughout the year the Rural District was free from diphtheria, enteric fevers, dysentery and acute poliomyelitis.

Confirmed Cases of Infectious Disease in each Quarter

Disease	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Year.
Scarlet Fever	1	-	1	12	14
Whooping Cough	-	21	-	1	22
Pneumonia	2	-	1	-	3
Measles	6	10	5	-	21
Erysipelas	-	-	1	-	1
All Diseases	9	31	8	13	61

Whooping Cough

Whooping Cough was the most prevalent notifiable disease during the year as 22 notifications were received, with a notification rate of 2.7 per 1000 estimated population. All except one case occurred in the second quarter of the year. The age group showing maximum incidence was the over 5 years and under 10 years of age group. The disease was relatively mild and there were no deaths.

The disease was almost localised, as 18 cases occurred in the parishes of Bredwardine (14 cases) and Dorstone (4 cases). Only 10 households were involved and seven of these gave rise to two or more cases. A clear history of contact with a known previous case was obtained in eleven cases.

Measles

This disease was almost as prevalent as whooping cough as 21 notifications were received, giving a notification rate of 2.5 per 1000 estimated population. The period of greatest incidence was the second quarter of the year, but neither the first nor the third quarters were free from the disease. Most of the patients were the younger school children. The disease was relatively mild and there were no deaths. The number of households involved was 15, of these 10 each gave rise to a single case. Unlike whooping cough, measles showed no sign of localisation, the cases occurring at widely separated parts of the District. A clear history of contact was obtained in six cases.

Scarlet Fever

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified was 14, exactly double the number notified in 1958. The scarlet fever notification rate is therefore 1.7 per 1000 estimated population.

Ten of the cases occurred in the Ewyas Harold area and an investigation carried out at the local school showed a high incidence of children infected with haemolytic streptococci. Appropriate action was taken and the infection brought under control.

Pneumonia

Only three notifications of pneumonia were received, which is rather less than the average of recent years in the Rural District. The disease was the only acute notifiable disease attributed as a cause of death - three deaths from pneumonia were allocated to the District

Analysis of notified cases according to
certain Age Groups

Disease	0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	25+	35+	45+	65+	All Ages
Scarlet Fever	-	-	2	-	2	9	1	-	-	-	-	-	14
Whooping Cough	2	-	2	2	-	9	6	1	-	-	-	-	22
Measles	1	1	1	1	4	10	2	1	-	-	-	-	21
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	3
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
All Diseases	3	1	5	3	6	28	11	3	-	-	-	1	61

Other Diseases

One case of erysipelas was notified in the third quarter of the year. The Rural District was seldom free from chicken pox during 1959; cases occurred throughout the year with an increased prevalence during the months of October and November - the patients being children under 10 years of age.

Cases of mumps occurred during March and April.

Tuberculosis

At the beginning of the year there were 45 cases of tuberculosis (33 respiratory and 12 non-respiratory) on the Register. During the year no cases were added. Five cases were removed from the register during the year, three of these patients were regarded as having recovered. At the end of the year 40 cases remained on the register, 28 of these being cases of respiratory disease.

There were no deaths attributed to tuberculosis; the local tuberculosis death rate is therefore nil. The death rate for England and Wales for all forms of tuberculosis is 0.085 per 1000 population.

